

Kansas People's Party Platform, 1894.

We the representatives of the People's party of the state of Kansas, in convention assembled, do hereby reaffirm our allegiance to the principles enunciated in the Omaha platform, and point to the records of our representatives in congress as an evidence of their loyalty to that platform. We meet at this time under conditions which see every prophecy then made fulfilled, and every indictment which was made therein against the republican and democratic parties proven.

Our sympathies go out to the unemployed, homeless and landless people of the country who have been brought to their present condition in a great measure through the vicious, un-American financial policy of this government; and we hold sacred the Declaration of Independence that all men are created equal; they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. We condemn the unwise and cruel policy of all the governing parties of this nation whose legislation has favored capital and oppressed labor, and we hereby declare our sympathy with all toilers in their efforts to improve their condition and demand such legislation as will result in removing some of the burdens of toil by shortening the hours of labor without lessening their daily wage.

We most heartily commend our present state officials for their wise and economic administration of state affairs, that has saved to the tax-payers thousands of dollars, and the Populist legislators for their efforts to enact into law every demand of the state platform adopted at Wichita in 1892.

We demand the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and denounce any party that is so completely under the control of the goldbugs that it dare not take a stand for the people on this all-important question, which means so much to the wage-earners and producers of our country.

We reiterate our opposition to all banks of issue, whether national or state, and demand the establishment of postal savings banks by the national government for the protection of small depositors, and call attention to the wide-spread distress caused by the large number of bank failures during the past year, whereby thousands of depositors suffered the loss of all their savings as evidence of the necessity of this demand.

We are unalterably opposed to the issue of government interest-bearing bonds, and demand instead full legal-tender treasury notes; and in the payment of the current expenses of the government there shall be no discrimination made between such notes and gold or silver.

We demand national and state arbitration to settle and adjust the differences between the employers and the employees; and we further demand that where the property of a corporation has been placed in the hands of a receiver, the wages of the employees shall be a first lien on its earnings and assets; and we denounce the appointment of officials or parties interested as receivers of any corporation.

We demand a service pension, graduated so that the man who carried the musket shall be entitled to the same consideration as the man who wore the spauldette, and said law to be so framed that it will place it forever beyond the power of any official who is unfriendly toward the union soldiers to change, suspend or in any way deprive the soldier of his just dues, which this government owes him for defending with his life our country and flag.

We favor a state irrigation department to investigate methods and water supplies and encourage more extended irrigation.

We demand a freight rate law based on the line of the maximum rate bill passed by the senate and Populist house, and afterward defeated by the republican house and quote in proof of the need of such law, the plank of the republican platform adopted at their state convention in 1892, which we adopt and make a part of this demand, to-wit:

"We insist that the great transportation companies which derive their corporate existence from Kansas laws and their financial existence from Kansas trade and commerce owe to the people of Kansas fair, equitable and honest treatment in the matter of freight rates; and we are opposed to the inequitable and oppressive discrimination in the adjustment of such rates by said corporation, whereby the merchants, shippers and consumers of other states are enriched at the expense and to the injury of the people of Kansas; and we demand of the next legislature the utmost diligence in enacting appropriate legislation providing therefor, to the end that the agricultural, mercantile and other interests of the state of Kansas shall be placed on a footing of equality so far as freight rates are concerned with the like interests of adjoining states."

Believing that all power is vested in the people and that all laws of vital importance should be initiated and approved or disapproved by them, we endorse the initiative and referendum system.

Whereas, The People's party came into existence and won its glorious victories on the fundamental principles of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, therefore be it Resolved, That we favor the pending constitutional amendment, but we do not regard it as a test of party fealty.

In support of these principles, we invite the co-operation of the loyal, liberty-loving people of all parties.

Kansas Republican Platform, 1894.

Resolved, First—The constant patriotism of our party is in itself a guarantee to the nation and the interests of its defenders, their widows and orphans, will be liberally cared for, and we denounce their cruel and deliberate betrayal by the present democratic administration.

Second—We adhere to the republican doctrine of protection, and believe that tariff laws should protect the products of the farm as well as of the factory.

Third—The American people favor bimetallism and the republican party demands the use of both gold and silver as standard money with such restrictions and under such provisions, to be determined by legislation, as will secure the maintenance of the parity of value of the two metals, and that the purchasing and debt-paying power of the dollar, whether of gold, silver or paper shall be at all times equal. The interests of the producers of the country, its farmers and its workmen, demand that the money be coined in

coinage of silver of the mines of the United States and that congress should enact a law levying a tax on importations of foreign silver sufficient to fully protect the products of our own mines.

Fourth—We favor national and state legislation for the encouragement of irrigation.

Fifth—We denounce the present state administration for its violation of the laws and contempt of the courts, the corruption and incompetency of its officials, its gross mismanagement of the state institutions, and for the discredit it has brought upon the good name of the state. And we pledge the republican party and the nominees of this convention to a faithful and economical discharge of all official duties to a strict observance and an honest enforcement of law, and to obedience to the mandates of the courts.

Sixth—To the maintenance of these principles we invite the support of all patriotic citizens.

People's Party National Platform.

(Adopted at Omaha 1892.)

First—That the union of the labor forces of the United States, this day commemorated, shall be permanent and perpetual. May its spirit enter into all hearts for the salvation of the republic and the uplifting of mankind.

Second—Wealth belongs to him who creates it, and every dollar taken from industry without an equivalent is robbery. "If any will not work neither shall he eat." The interests of rural and civic labor are the same; their enemies are identical.

Third—We believe that the time has come when the railroad corporations must either own the people or the people the corporations, and should the government enter upon the work of owning and managing any or all railroads we should favor an amendment to the constitution by which all persons engaged in the government service shall be placed under a civil service regulation of the most rigid character so as to prevent the increase of the power of the national administration by the use of such additional government employees.

We demand a national currency—safe, sound and flexible, issued by the general government, and a full legal tender for all debts public and private, and that without the use of banking corporations; a just, equitable and efficient means of distribution direct to the people at a tax not to exceed 3 per cent per annum, to be provided as set forth in the sub-treasury plan of the Farmers' Alliance or some better system; also by payments in discharge of its obligations for public improvements.

We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver and gold at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1.

We demand that the amount of the circulating medium be speedily increased to not less than \$50 per capita.

We demand a graduated income-tax.

We believe that the monies of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all national and state revenues shall be limited to the necessary expenses of the government, economically and honestly administered.

We demand that postal savings banks be established by the government for the safe deposit of the earnings of the people and to facilitate exchange.

Transportation being a means of exchange and a public necessity, the government should own and operate the railroads in the interest of the people.

The telegraph and telephone, like the post-office system, being a necessity for transmission of news, should be owned and operated by the government in the interest of the people.

The land, including all the natural sources of wealth, is the heritage of all the people and should not be monopolized for speculative purposes, and alien ownership of land should be prohibited. All lands now held by the railroads and other corporations in excess of their actual needs, and all lands now owned by aliens should be reclaimed by the government and held for actual settlers only.

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